

PATENT  
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: HOSOE-5004

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: )  
)  
Hideyasu KUNIBA )  
)  
U.S. Application No.: Unassigned ) Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned  
(National Phase of: PCT/JP00/00848) )  
) Examiner: Not Yet Assigned  
For: COMPRESSION CODING METHOD, )  
RECORDING MEDIUM RECORDING )  
COMPRESSION CODING )  
PROGRAM, AND CAMERA DEVICE )

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above identified application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend claims 1-10 as follows:

1. (Amended) A compression coding method comprising the steps of:

[a] trial [step of] compressing-coding [the] image data using trial compression parameters  
[for trial];

[a parameter estimation step of] estimating [the] compression parameters to compress

5 [said] the image data to a target code volume based on [said] image data compression result in

[said] the trial step; and